

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (Currently Amended) An integrated three phase separator for separation of natural
2 gas, hydrocarbon liquid, and water or brine, which separator comprises:

3 a cylindrical vertical separation unit having a substantially closed top, ~~and~~ an opposed
4 bottom, a fluid inlet and a gas outlet;

5 a cylindrical horizontal separation unit having a first substantially closed end and a
6 second end, a water or brine outlet and a hydrocarbon liquid outlet ~~pair of opposed ends~~;

7 a tubular elbow connection having a pair of ends, one said end connected to said
8 bottom of said vertical separation unit and another said end connected at ~~one~~ said second end of said
9 horizontal separation unit; and

10 metering plate means within said tubular elbow connection to retain said natural gas
11 in said horizontal unit.

1 2. (Original) An integrated three phase separator as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said
2 vertical separation unit, said horizontal separation unit, and said tubular elbow connection each have
3 the same diameter.

1 3. (Original) An integrated three phase separator as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said
2 metering plate means includes a flat plate juxtaposed at an angle to an axis of said vertical separation
3 unit and at an angle to an axis of said horizontal unit.

1 4. (Original) An integrated three phase separator as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said
2 flat plate is juxtaposed at approximately a 30° angle to said vertical unit.

1 5. (Original) An integrated three phase separator as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said
2 metering plate means includes a flat plate extending across a diameter of said tubular elbow
3 connection, and having a truncated base to permit liquid flow therethrough.

1 6. (Original) An integrated three phase separator as set forth in Claim 1 including a
2 fluid inlet from a well head into said vertical separation unit.

1 7. (Original) An integrated three phase separator as set forth in Claim 6 wherein said
2 fluid inlet is tangential to said vertical unit.

1 8. (Original) An integrated three phase separator as set forth in Claim 1 including a
2 natural gas outlet from said top of said vertical separation unit.

1 9. (Original) An integrated three phase separator as set forth in Claim 5 including a slot
2 in said metering plate.

1 10. (Original) An integrated three phase separator as set forth in Claim 1 including an
2 equalizer/condenser line extending between said horizontal unit and said vertical unit to balance gas
3 pressure in said units.

- 1 11. (Currently Amended) An integrated three phase separator as set forth in ~~Claim 1~~
- 2 Claim 10 including a supply gas dryer line extending from said equalizer/condenser line.